

January 26, 1999

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular session at 7:20 P.M. on Tuesday, January 26, 1999, in the City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Horwich, Lee, Messerlian, O'Donnell, Walker
and Mayor Hardison.

Absent: Councilmember Cribbs.

Also Present: City Manager Jackson, City Attorney Fellows, City Clerk Herbers
and other staff representatives.

2. **FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION**

West High School Army JROTC, Sgt. John Tucker commanding, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reverend Al Mace, Torrance First Baptist Church, gave the invocation for the meeting.

3. **AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING**

MOTION: Councilmember Lee moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember O'Donnell and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison (absent Councilmember Cribbs).

MOTION: Councilmember Lee moved that, after the City Clerk has read aloud the number and title to any resolution or ordinance on the meeting agenda, the further reading thereof shall be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilmember the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember O'Donnell and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison (absent Councilmember Cribbs).

4. **WITHDRAWN/DEFERRED ITEMS**

City Manager Jackson announced that Agenda Item No. 13b (1999-2001 City Manager Proposed Budget Development Plan for City Council Direction) would be deferred until the City Council meeting of February 9, 1999.

5. **COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Wendy Selogie
Recording Secretary

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Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee

Tuesday, February 2, 1999, 5:30 P.M., Third Floor Assembly Room

Subject: Gymnasium at Wilson Park and Madrona Marsh Nature Center

Transportation Committee

Thursday, February 4, 1999, 5:30 P.M., Third Floor Assembly Room

Subject: Taxi Ordinance

6. **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

6a. **PROCLAMATION RE COMMUNITY TELEVISION DAY**

The Council presented a proclamation to Ms. Eileen Haussmann and Mr. John Wong, Cable Television Advisory Board, declaring Friday, January 29, 1999 as "Community Television Day" in the City of Torrance.

6b. **PROCLAMATION RE BURN AWARENESS WEEK**

The Council presented a proclamation to Mr. Jim Swing, Torrance Fire Department Public Education Officer, Ms. Nancy Wise, Torrance Memorial Burn Center Outreach Director and Ms. Janet Lambert, El Camino College Child Development Center Director, declaring the week of February 7 through 13, 1999 as "Burn Awareness Week" in the City of Torrance.

At this time, City employee Jon Ziegler briefed the City Council on the success of the City's Holiday collection drives. On behalf of the Council, Mayor Hardison commended Mr. Ziegler's efforts related thereto.

City Clerk Herbers announced that applications for appointments to various City commissions will be accepted until 6:30 P.M. on Friday, 3, 1999, with appointments to be made at the City Council meeting of February 9, 1999.

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

7a. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - JANUARY 5, 1999**

7b. **STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT ACTIVITY - NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 1998**

Recommendation

The City's Statement of Investment Policy requires the City Treasurer to report a monthly statement of investment activity. The City Treasurer recommends that the City Council accept and file the subject reports.

7c. **LICENSE AGREEMENT RE ALLIED SIGNAL**

Recommendation

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The Engineering Director recommends that the City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to a License Agreement with Allied Signal for one (1) groundwater monitoring well in Del Amo Boulevard near Gramercy Place.

7d. **CORRECTED ESTOPPEL CERTIFICATE RE 2655 PACIFIC COAST HWY**

Recommendation

A recommendation of the Land Management Team that the City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to an Estoppel Certificate concerning the lease for property located at Pacific Coast Highway in the center known as Rolling Hills Shopping Center/Schwartz Parcel.

7e. **JTPA EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING AGREEMENT**

Recommendation

It is the joint recommendation of the Workforce Development Committee of the Carson/Lomita/Torrance Private Industry Council (PIC) and the Human Resources Director of the City of Torrance that the City Council authorize the execution of an agreement for employment and training services with Los Angeles Harbor College for Basic Skills Training not to exceed \$145,000.

MOTION: Councilmember O'Donnell moved for the approval of the Consent Calendar as written. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote, with Councilmember Walker abstaining on Item No. 7a (Approval of Minutes - January 5, 1999) and Councilmember Cribbs absent.

13. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

13a. **SHORT-RANGE REORGANIZATION PLAN RE TRANSIT DEPARTMENT**

Recommendation

The City Manager recommends that the City Council approve the proposed short-range reorganization and approve the following implementing actions:

- Creation of a stand-alone Transit Department
- Transfer of the Bus Fleet Division and a portion of the warehouse to the newly-proposed Transit Department
- Rename the General Services Department the Internal Services Department
- Create a Facilities Operations Division under the Internal Services Department (formerly General Services)

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- Transfer the City Fleet Division and a portion of the warehouse to the Internal Services Department
- Consolidate the graphics function within Central Services unit of the Internal Services Department
- Transfer the Purchasing Division to the Finance Department
- Transfer the Airport maintenance function as a section under the Street Services Department
- Additions, deletions and revisions of positions as proposed.

On behalf of Torrance Municipal Employees (TME) American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 1117, Mr. Alan Lee thanked the City Council for continuing this matter from a previous meeting to allow AFSCME to adequately review the proposal. Mr. Lee explained AFSCME's agreement with the staff recommendations to transfer the Purchasing Division to the Finance Department, consolidate the graphics function within the Central Services unit of the Internal Services Department, create a stand-alone Transit Department and redefine the General Services Department. However, he related AFSCME's concerns over the idea of terminating the Wells Fargo security services contract and instead hiring building attendants and the lack of input from the Airport Commission regarding the recommendation to transfer the Airport maintenance function to the Street Services Division. Mr. Lee related his understanding that an Airport Manager is required under the City Charter and he pointed out that the job specifications for Airport and Street Services personnel are very different.

Ms. Jeannie Moorman, TME AFSCME Local 1117, stated that reorganization is Management's prerogative. But, the impact of the related changes on employees must be a subject of meet and confer prior to implementing them and no such meetings have taken place.

Mr. David Cochran, TME AFSCME Local 1117, commented on the importance of bringing a complete reorganization package forward for the City Council's consideration. He asked that the City Manager be directed to do so.

Mr. Barry Jay, 2514 Brian Avenue, President, Torrance Airport Association, expressed concern over the possibility of dividing up Airport functions. He contended that this matter should be considered by the Airport Commission and, therefore, requested a continuance.

City Manager Jackson provided background information on the recommendation to transfer the Airport maintenance function to the Street Services Department. He related the City's willingness to discuss with AFSCME possible options for providing alternative assignments for individuals having health restrictions. Mr. Jackson affirmed that key elements of the proposed reorganization (such as changes in rules and regulations, hours and working conditions) are subject to meet and confer, should the recommendation be approved.

Returning to the podium, Mr. Lee presented pertinent written material to the City Council. He asked that the item be continued to work out the issues of concern to AFSCME.

City Manager Jackson verified that a continuance to explore alternatives to terminating the contract with Wells Fargo for security would be acceptable.

Councilmember Lee related his opinion that this matter is not about saving money, but about logic. He stated his impression that there does not appear to be any large impacts that could not be worked out and he offered the following motion.

MOTION: Councilmember Lee moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mayor Hardison and ultimately passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Hardison explained that reorganization items have not typically been presented to City commissions for consideration.

Councilmember Messerlian noted that the implications of the reorganization would be the subject of meet and confer and he felt that minor differences could be worked out.

City Manager Jackson clarified that an approval of the item would include an approval of the proposed reorganization, subject to meet and confer relevant to hours, wages and working conditions.

The motion was passed by unanimous roll call vote, absent Councilmember Cribbs.

13b. **1999-2001 PROPOSED BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Deferred until February 9, 1999 (See "Withdrawn/Deferred Items," page 1).

13c. **RESOLUTION RE LACMTA COMPETITIVE GRANTS**

Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the Capital Project Oversight Committee (CPOC) that the Council adopt a resolution authorizing the filing of applications for Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) Call for Projects Competitive Grants in a total amount of \$12,663,750.

City Manager Jackson provided the staff report. He related the City of Gardena's request that Torrance and Gardena enter into a partnership to extend the landscaping on Artesia Boulevard east to Vermont Avenue as part of the Artesia Boulevard project. Mr. Jackson indicated that, should the Council so approve, the City's 1999 Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) Call for Projects application would be revised to reflect that change. In answer to questions from the Council, City Manager Jackson advised that this grant would allow the City to landscape and assist in placing utilities under ground on Artesia Boulevard and that it would enable the City to do more on Artesia Boulevard than would have originally been possible.

Transportation Planner Buchman related her understanding that, should it be approved, it would be necessary to modify the wording of the subject resolution to revise the definition of the project.

City Attorney Fellows advised that the amount of funding in the resolution would remain as currently shown and that it would be necessary for Gardena to make their own adjustment with regard to funding.

Transportation Planner Buchman stated her impression that Gardena would have to adopt a resolution similar to the one under discussion at this time and that they would provide the City of Torrance with a Letter of Intent.

City Manager Jackson affirmed that the subject resolution could remain as is and that Gardena's resolution could address the next increment of the Artesia Boulevard project. He recommended that the Council approve a minute motion giving Gardena the authority to extend the landscaping on Artesia Boulevard to Vermont Avenue.

Councilmember Messerlian moved for the approval of the City of Gardena's request to be included as part of the Artesia Boulevard project for landscaping from Western to Vermont Avenues. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote, absent Councilmember Cribbs.

Mayor Hardison observed that the MTA appears to look at things on a regional basis and that it is important for Torrance to be part of the process.

City Clerk Herbers read aloud the number and title of Resolution No. 99-07.

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 99-07 as amended.. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote, absent Councilmember Cribbs.

RESOLUTION NO. 99-07

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS
FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION
AUTHORITY COMPETITIVE GRANT FOR TRANSPORTATION
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

13d. **LEASE RE LAND FOR DESALINIZATION FACILITY**

Recommendation

A recommendation of the Land Management Team that the City Council:

Authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to a lease between the City of Torrance and the Water Replenishment District (WRD) for City-owned land located at the City Yard Facility, 20500 Madrona Avenue, for the purpose of constructing a desalination plant; and

Grant easements for Parcel "A" and Parcel "B" to lay, construct, maintain and repair and reconstruct one or more pipeline, conduit and the production well associated with the project.

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Assistant to the City Manager/Chairman of the Land Management Team Sunshine presented the staff report.

Mr. Bob Goldsworthy, Vice President, Water Replenishment District (WRD), asked the Council to approve this proposal. He voiced his appreciation of the City's support and, particularly, the related efforts of Assistant to the City Manager/Chairman of the Land Management Team Sunshine.

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved to concur with the recommendation of the Land Management Team. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lee and passed by unanimous roll call vote, absent Councilmember Cribbs.

16. **SECOND AND FINAL READING ORDINANCES**

16a. **SECOND READING RE ORDINANCE NO. 3463**

City Clerk Herbers read aloud the number and title of Ordinance No. 3463.

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3463, second and final reading. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lee and passed by unanimous roll call vote, absent Councilmember Cribbs.

18. **ADDENDUM MATTERS**

None.

19. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

19a. Councilmember Horwich related his appreciation of the visits he is making to various City departments.

19b. Councilmember Lee announced the need for a joint meeting of the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee and the Torrance Unified School District.

19c. Councilmember Messerlian asked for input on the status of his previous request for right-turn restrictions eastbound onto Pacific Coast Highway from Hawthorne Boulevard and southbound onto Hawthorne Boulevard from Pacific Coast Highway.

19d. Noting a recent traffic accident at Hawthorne Boulevard and Newton Street, Councilmember Messerlian requested input on the idea of installing a left-turn signal at that location.

19e. Councilmember O'Donnell announced the Torrance Historical Society's upcoming bus trip to the Museum of Miniatures on Saturday, February 20, 1999.

19f. Councilmember O'Donnell called attention to the North High School JROTC and the "Steppers" First Annual Black History Cabaret and dinner on Thursday, February 25, 1999.

19g. Fire Chief Bongard highlighted the upcoming Torrance Firefighters' Association's 27th Annual Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, February 13, 1999.

19h. Councilmember Walker expressed his regrets over the closing of Del Conte's Restaurant.

Councilmember Lee recommended the adoption of a resolution honoring Del Conte's.

19i. Mayor Hardison appointed a Council ad hoc committee composed of Councilmembers Cribbs (Chairman), Messerlian and Walker to examine the idea of establishing a policy for naming facilities and streets after individuals and companies, as well as methods for placing sign dedications at the Cultural Arts Center.

20. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Pursuant to Government Code Sections 54956.6, 54956.9(a) and 54956.8, at 8:30 P.M., the Council entered into a closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on the agenda matters listed under Item Nos. 20a (Conference with Labor Negotiator), 20b (Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation) and 20c (Real Property - Conference with Real Property Negotiator).

The Council returned to open session at 9:27 P.M., with no formal action having been taken in closed session.

21. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:28 P.M., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, February 9, 1999, 5:30 P.M., for a joint meeting with the Torrance Youth Council, to be followed by the regular meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Mayor of the City of Torrance

ATTEST:

City Clerk of the City of Torrance

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